



Office of Operations | District 04
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John Bel Edwards, Governor
Shawn D. Wilson, Ph.D., Secretary

December 7, 2021
Louisiana Board of Ethics
P.O. Box 4368
Baton Rouge, LA 70821

Re: Louisiana Board of Ethics Docket No. 2021-773

Whereas La. R.S. 42:1119A provides that no member of the immediate family of an agency head shall be employed in his agency.

Whereas, La. R.S. 42:111 B. (1) prohibits a public servant from participating in any transaction in which his immediate family member has a substantial economic interest.

Whereas, La. R.S. 42:1119 C.(2) provides an exception if the public servant has been continuously employed by the agency for more than one year prior to the public servant's immediate family member becoming an agency head.

Whereas, La. R.S. 42:111 2 C requires that the public servant submit a disqualification plan to the Board to prevent a possible violation.

Therefore, it is planned and directed, as set forth by the Louisiana Board of Ethics:

Mr. William Whatley shall be disqualified from decisions addressing leave requests/approvals, performance evaluations, disciplinary actions, pay increases, promotions/demotions, or any activity that can be considered to have a substantial economic interest for Mrs. Lori Whatley, Administrative Coordinator IV, as long as her spouse, Mr. William Whatley, is the Parish Highway Maintenance Superintendent. The Engineering Technician 7 Maintenance Specialist, currently John R. Fontenot, the direct Supervisor over the Parish Highway Maintenance Superintendent, shall administer those same functions in Mr. Whatley's stead.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 318-549-8300.

Thank you,

David K. North, Jr., P.E.
District Engineer Administrator

DKN/ksm

Tracy Barker (Ethics)

From: David Bordelon
Sent: Tuesday, January 11, 2022 2:54 PM
To: Tracy Barker (Ethics); Kathleen Allen
Subject: FW: La. Board of Ethics Advisory Opinion (No. 2021-773)
Attachments: Advisory Opinion (No. 2021-773) Disqualification plan .pdf

DQ plan request in connection with AO 2021-773.

David M. Bordelon
Staff Attorney
Louisiana Board of Ethics
Lasalle Building, 10th Floor
617 N. Third Street (70802)
P.O. Box 4368 (70821)
Baton Rouge, Louisiana
Direct: 225.219.5605
Office: 225.219.5600
Toll Free: 1-800-842-6630

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From: Lori Whatley <Lori.Whatley@LA.GOV>
Sent: Tuesday, January 11, 2022 10:22 AM
To: David Bordelon <David.Bordelon@la.gov>
Subject: RE: La. Board of Ethics Advisory Opinion (No. 2021-773)

Good Morning David,

The Disqualification Plan has been approved by DOTD's legal department and I have attached the letter to be submitted for the next meetings approval.

Thank you so much for all of your help.

Thanks,

Lori



From: David Bordelon <David.Bordelon@la.gov>
Sent: Thursday, January 6, 2022 9:08 AM
To: Lori Whatley <Lori.Whatley@LA.GOV>
Subject: RE: La. Board of Ethics Advisory Opinion (No. 2021-773)

Yes

David M. Bordelon
Staff Attorney
Louisiana Board of Ethics
Lasalle Building, 10th Floor
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From: Lori Whatley <Lori.Whatley@LA.GOV>
Sent: Thursday, January 6, 2022 9:03 AM
To: David Bordelon <David.Bordelon@la.gov>
Subject: RE: La. Board of Ethics Advisory Opinion (No. 2021-773)

Good morning David,

So he could already be put in the new position as long as we are following the plan before it is approved by the board?

Thanks,

Lori



From: David Bordelon <David.Bordelon@la.gov>
Sent: Thursday, January 6, 2022 8:40 AM
To: Lori Whatley <Lori.Whatley@LA.GOV>
Subject: RE: La. Board of Ethics Advisory Opinion (No. 2021-773)

Lori,

The disqualification plan will have to be approved by the Board at our next available meeting. As long as everyone is following the plan, then there shouldn't be any issues.

You can email it to me and I will make sure it is added to our next meeting to be approved.

Thanks,

David M. Bordelon
Staff Attorney
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From: Lori Whatley <Lori.Whatley@LA.GOV>
Sent: Wednesday, January 5, 2022 1:54 PM
To: David Bordelon <David.Bordelon@la.gov>
Subject: RE: La. Board of Ethics Advisory Opinion (No. 2021-773)

Hello David,

I have a question, once DOTD's legal section approves the disqualification letter that was written by our District Administrator can I just email it back to you or do I need to submit it another way? Also, will it have to be presented to the board at one of the monthly meetings? I'm just trying to see how long we are looking at once I get the disqualification letter back from DOTD's legal dept..

Thanks,

Lori



From: David Bordelon <David.Bordelon@la.gov>
Sent: Friday, December 3, 2021 4:01 PM
To: Lori Whatley <Lori.Whatley@LA.GOV>
Cc: Blake Whatley <Blake.Whatley@LA.GOV>
Subject: La. Board of Ethics Advisory Opinion (No. 2021-773)

Lori,

The Board approved your advisory opinion request. I've attached a copy for your reference. The original will be mailed to you next week.

Please let me know if you or anyone at DOTD has any questions.

David M. Bordelon

Staff Attorney
Louisiana Board of Ethics
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